

# Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 60, No. 1

Tuesday, January 3, 1995

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Marketing Service

[TMD-94-00-5]

#### Notice of Program Continuation

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice Inviting Applications for Fiscal Year 1995 Grant Funds Under the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP) was allocated \$1,200,000 in the Federal budget for Fiscal Year 1995. Funds remain available for this program. States interested in obtaining funds under the program are invited to submit proposals for marketing studies. Only State Departments of Agriculture or State Agencies are eligible for funds.

**DATES:** Applications will be accepted through June 1, 1995.

**ADDRESSES:** Proposals may be sent to Dr. Harold S. Ricker, Assistant Director, Transportation and Marketing Division, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 4006 South Building, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Harold S. Ricker, (202) 720-2704.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** FSMIP is authorized under Section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*). The program is a matching fund program designed to assist State Departments of Agriculture in conducting feasibility studies related to the marketing of agricultural products. Organizations interested in conducting a marketing study should contact their State Department of Agriculture Marketing Division to discuss their proposal.

Mutually acceptable proposals must be submitted through the State Office

and be accompanied by a completed Standard Form 424 and detailed budget statement. FSMIP funds may not be used for advertising or the purchase of equipment or facilities. Guidelines may be obtained from your State Departments of Agriculture or the above AMS contact.

In terms of objectives, the States are encouraged to submit proposals regarding:

(1) studies to identify new crops, markets, and marketing systems for agricultural products, both domestically and internationally;

(2) studies to improve efficiency of the marketing system to enhance competitiveness and profitability;

(3) studies to help maintain product quality through new handling, processing, and distribution techniques;

(4) studies to provide market assistance to the specialty foods industries; and,

(5) proposals addressing other marketing objectives will also receive consideration.

FSMIP is listed in the "Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance" under number 10.156 and subject agencies must adhere to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars discrimination in all Federally assisted programs.

Dated: December 27, 1994.

**Lon Hatamiya,**

*Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.*

[FR Doc. 94-32291 Filed 12-30-94; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-02-P**

### Forest Service

#### Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to Analyze and Disclose the Effects of a Proposal By Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.; Meeting

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** The USDA Forest Service will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and USDA Rural Utility Services to analyze and disclose the effects of a proposal by Tri-State Generation & Transmission Assoc., Inc. to construct a transmission line in Grand County, Colorado. The

project area includes portions of the Arapaho Roosevelt National Forest and the Kremmling Resource Area, Craig District, BLM.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the scope of the analysis (issues, preliminary alternatives, etc.) should be received by February 20, 1995. The public is invited to provide information concerning the proposed project at a meeting to be held January 20, 1995, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Fraser Elementary School, Fraser, Colorado.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments, suggestions and questions to George Edwards, District Ranger, Sulphur Ranger District, 62429 U.S. Highway 40, P.O. Box 10, Granby, CO 80446.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Questions regarding the proposed action and environmental impact statement should be directed to Sally Edwards, Project Facilitator, phone (303) 229-9602. Note: after 4/95 the phone number will be (970) 229-9602.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Tri-State proposes to construct, operate, and maintain a transmission line from the existing Fraser Substation one mile west of Fraser, Colorado to an as yet undetermined existing substation within a 15-20 mile radius of Fraser Substation. The project is known as the *Fraser Valley Loop Project* and is located in Grand County, Colorado.

The electric loads served from the Fraser Substation have grown to a level where the consequences of a line outage are too great. Presently, the Fraser Valley is served from a single 138-kV, 13 mile transmission line. An outage of this facility could well affect over 6,000 customers in East Grand County and could last up to five days.

The purpose for constructing the *Fraser Valley Loop Project* is to increase reliability of service to the customers served from the Fraser Substation and minimize the consequences of the Windy Gap-Fraser 138-kV line outage. A new transmission circuit will provide a second source of electric power for Tri-State's member system Mountain Parks Electric, Inc. (MPEI) and substantially increase capacity to service MPEI loads.

Tri-State has prepared a comprehensive Alternative Evaluation report for the Rural Utility Services (formerly known as the Rural Electrification Administration) which discusses in detail the purpose and need

and system alternatives being considered for the project.

The Forest Service is serving as lead federal agency for the preparation of an environmental impact statement which will evaluate the purpose, need, and routing alternatives for the proposed project. The decision to be made is whether to allow the use of portions of Forest Service land and/or Public Land managed by the BLM for siting a transmission line facility. The Forest Service has invited other affected agencies to participate in the environmental process as cooperating agencies including the USDI Bureau of Land Management; and the USDA Rural Utility Services.

Preliminary issues associated with this proposal include effects on visual resources, effects on public and private land use, coordination with Grand County land use planning, potential effects of electro magnetic fields, commitment of resources and demonstrated public safety needs.

The Forest Service invites comments and suggestions on the scope of the analysis to be documented in the draft environmental impact statement. In addition, the Forest Service gives notice that it is beginning a full environmental analysis and decision-making process for this proposal so that interested or affected people may know how they may participate in the environmental analysis and contribute to the final decision. A public "scoping" meeting is scheduled for January 20, 1995 in Fraser, Colorado. The purpose of this workshop is to learn what issues and concerns members of the public or interested agencies have that are connected to the proposal and should be considered. Knowledge of these issues and concerns will help establish the scope of the Forest Service's environmental analysis and define the range of alternatives to be considered. The Forest Service welcomes any public comments on the proposal.

The responsible officials will be the Forest Supervisor, Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grasslands, 240 West Prospect Road, Fort Collins, Colorado and District Manager, Craig District, 455 Emerson Street, Craig, Colorado 81625.

It is anticipated the draft environmental impact statement will be published in September, 1995 and the final environmental impact statement in January, 1996.

The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes the Notice of Availability (NOA) in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45-day comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages of chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council of Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points. Please note that comments you make on the draft environmental impact statement will be regarded as public information.

Date: December 27, 1994.

**Eric L. Jensen,**

*Acting Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 94-32259 Filed 12-30-94; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-550-0-111-24 1A]

### National Park Service

### Fish & Wildlife Service

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

### Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Program Review

**AGENCIES:** Forest Service, USDA; Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, United States Fish & Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice; initiation of a Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Program Review.

**SUMMARY:** An Interagency Steering Group has been formed to examine wildland fire management policies, goals, and objectives and to ensure that uniform policies and cohesive programs are in place to carry out an effective, efficient, and safe program. This effort will ultimately result in a report to the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior containing recommendations on federal wildland fire management policy and strategic goals and objectives.

**DATES:** Comments must be in writing and will be accepted until (February 2, 1995.)

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be directed to: Federal Wildfire Policy Review, Department of the Interior, 18th & C Streets NW, Mail Stop 7355, Washington, D.C. 20240, or via electronic mail to: Fire @ IOS . DOI . GOV.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tim Hartzell, Bureau of Land Management, phone (202) 208-5472; or John Chambers, USDA-Forest Service, phone (202) 205-1505.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Interagency Steering Committee will examine the full range of wildland fire management issues and policies, with special emphasis on:

- The role of fire in natural resource management, including appropriate strategies for integrating fire into the management of ecosystems as a whole;
- Wildland fire protection and preparedness capabilities and resources needed to meet national needs;
- Use of prescribed fire and other fuel treatments needed to meet resource management objectives;
- The appropriate role of Federal, State, local, and private organizations in the wildland/urban interface.